

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

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DRAFTED BY AF/C:MGALLAGHER:OSM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 238011

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA

SUBJECT: FILMING OF PYGMIES BY OPAL PRODUCTIONS

MICHAEL BROWN OF OPAL PRODUCTIONS OF HOLLYWOOD IS PRODUCING A MOVIEBASED ON PETER TOMPKINS' BOOK "THE SECRET LIFE OF PLANTS." THE FILM WILL DEPICT THE LIVES OF VARIOUS PEOPLES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AS THEY INTERACT WITH THEIR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT. AMONG THE TRIBAL PEOPLES HE IS INTERESTED IN FILMING ARE THE PYGMIES. WHILE COORDINATING THIS FILM HE HAS DEALT DIRECTLY WITH THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED THROUGH THEIR EMBASSIES IN WASHINGTON. ZAIRE EMBASSY HAS NOT BEEN HELPFUL. MR. BROWN IS WILLING TO TRAVEL BEFOREHAND TO KINSHASA TO DISCUSS HIS PROJECT WITH OFFICIALS OF GOZ, BUT DOES NOT KNOW WHO TO APPROACH. IT WILL TAKE A 5-MAN CREW APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK TO FILM THE NEEDED SEGMENTS. HE HOPES TO ACCOMPLISH THE FILMING IN DEC. OR JAN- HE WISHES TO MAKE KNOWN TO THE GOZ THAT THE PYGMY SECTION, INDEED THE ENTIRE FILM, TAKES A VERY POSITIVE APPROACH TO MAN LIVING IN NATURAL HABITATS AND BROWN STATES HE WILL WORK UNDER WHATEVER GUIDELINES THE GOZ DEEMS APPROPRIATE. REQUEST YOUR VIEWS AS TO WHETHER THIS PROJECT IS FEASIBLE AND ANY ADVICE YOU CAN GIVE AS TO HOW BROWN SHOULD GO ABOUT SECURING GOZ APPROVAL. KISSINGER

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